

Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 SAM-01 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 PM-04

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R 041645Z NOV 75

FM AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1327

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PONTA DELGADA 424

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MARR, PO

SUBJ: LABOR NEGOTIATIONS AT LAJES AIR FORCE BASE

1. JOSE ADRIANO BORGES DE CARVALHO, PPD MEMBER OF THE JUNTA REGIONAL FROM THE ANGRA DISTRICT, CAME TO SEE ME OCT 4 AT THE REQUEST OF THE PPD IN ANGRA. HE SAID THE PORTUGUESE EMPLOYEES OF THE US AT LAJES BASE ARE UNHAPPY WITH THE CURRENT LABOR NEGOTIATIONS BECAUSE THEY ARE THREATENED WITH THE REDUCTION OF NUMBER OF PAID HOLIDAYS. SOME OF THE EMPLOYEES WANTED TO STAGE A DEMONSTRATION IN PROTEST ON OCT 31 BUT WERE TALKED OUT OF IT. THE PPD IS CONCERNED BECAUSE THERE IS A GOOD POSSIBILITY OF DEMONSTRATIONS. INEVITABLY FLA WOULD GET INVOLVED AND THE PPD THINKS THIS IS A PARTICULARLY BAD TIME FOR AGITATION. THE PPD IS ALSO TRYING TO WIN SUPPORT AMONG LABOR AND IS WORRIED BECAUSE THE PCP IS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE EMQLOYEE DISCONTENT TO MAKE IN ROADS.

2. COMMENT: THE PPD IN ANGRA IS THE MOST MODERATE IN THE AZORES. THE FACT THAT IT CONCERNED ENOUGH TO SEND AN EMISSARY TO THE CONSULATE IS SIGNIFICANT. I AGREE WITH THE PPD THAT IT IS A PARTICULARLY UNAPPROPRIATE TIME TO HAVE THE U.S. BASE BECOME A POLITICAL ISSUE IN THE AZORES. THE PCP WAS BADLY DAMAGED HERE IN AUGUST AND CAN BE COUNTED ON TO EXPLOIT ANY SITUATION IT CAN HERE. FROM THE AZORES, IT ALSO LOOKS LIKE A GOOD ISSUS FOR THE LEFT ON THE CONTINENT TO SIEZE.

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Message Attributes

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